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 the OCTOBER 30th

A confidential report, leaked out of Jamaica, West Indies, at great risk, says that ballot boxes are being prepared -- in HAVANA -- before the scheduled October 30th elections . Jamaican voter registration lists are being used to register phony ballots, and totals have already been worked out, in Havana. These totals give current Prime Minister 38 seats in Parliament, 18 seats to Opposition Leader Edward Seaga, of the Jamaica Labour Party, and 8 seats to the Marxist Workers Party, headed by Dr. Trevor Monroe.

These phony ballot boxes, which Jamaicans fear will be switched on election day, give the almost exact reverse of predictions in local Jamaican opinion polls. Local polls, in early October, gave Labour Party leader Seaga and Labour candidates as much as 57 percent support to only 42 per cent for Manley in parishes like St. Mary and St. Ann. Total projections for the October 30th election, in local polls, are that Seaga, in a fair election, would win 38 to 40 seats in Parliament with his party. The Workers Party, ~~projected~~ which the phony boxes in Havana give 8 seats, actually carries less than one per cent support in any Jamaican polls (.2 per cent).

Jamaicans fear that ex Minister of Security Dudley Thompson -- who has been "resting and recuperating under medical care" in Havana for several months-- is the main person behind this ballot box plan -- and will be the person to make the switches with local ballot boxes on October 30th. Thompson, a highly suspect figure for many years, was thrown out of the Bahamas by Prime Minister Pingling before being appointed as Security Minister by Manley in Jamaica, was removed from his post this summer after about 10 Jamaican organizations called for his dismissal. (Jamaican Council of Churches etc...)

Thompson is the same individual who was on a plane to Havana this summer, seated with Cuban Ambassador to Jamaica Ulysees Estrada and Ruperto Hart, the manager of Moonex International, in Kingston -- when Jamaican security officials walked on board to arrest Hart for his part in the receipt of \$200,000 rounds of .38 ammunition at the Kingston harbour. (The ship, the Tango Express, had delivered the ammunition, addressed to Moonex, which is a Cuban-owned and managed firm.) Manley has since denied that Thompson was even on the plane that day, despite security officials' statement that he was with Estrada and Hart.

There are also reports that Manley's private "Home Guard" and Jamaican Defense Forces will be called out on Election Day in Jamaica -- with deliberate efforts to frighten away voters by violence.

The report of the phony ballot boxes was given by a reliable source who must not be named for the sake of safety. (Confidential: It comes from within the Jamaican Defense Forces, but this should not be mentioned, since it would help make the source traceable by the Manley government, who, of course, do not want this report leaked.)

W.K. Duncan, secretary for the Peoples National Party, or ruling party in Jamaica, said, on July 25th, at a rally in Montego Bay, that "the PNP would rule until the end of the 20th century." This despite the fact that all local polls favoured the Opposition Labour Party. Cuba has also just signed a one-year loan agreement with Jamaica, and the Soviet Union has signed its second trade agreement with Manley this fall. High stakes are involved in this election, since observers feel Castro fears Reagan will win the U.S. election -- the October 30th ballot in Jamaica, therefore, would be his "last chance" to take over Jamaica -- and add it to his growing empire in the Caribbean/Central American region.

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The "solidarity" rally in Montego Bay on July 25th, where Duncan and Manley spoke, was also attended by Juan Almeida Bosque (vice president of Castro's Council of State); Brigadier General Lino Carreras Rodriguez, who is "in charge of the Special Forces under the command of the Chief Commander," Fidel Castro; Osvaldo Ordenas Junquera, chief of the Caribbean section of the DGI's Central Americas Committee; Ramon Pez Ferro, of the Council of State; Levi Farah Balmaseda; Alfredo Morales Burgos, of the Council of State; Mrs. Columena Calera, of the Cuban Communist Party's central council; Castro advisor Senor Bruga, who has also been in Africa; Ernesto Lord Carmes; Rufino Leon; Dimas Paez; Juan Pardo; Irvina Guisado; Aldo Turquena Cardona; Angel Reyes; and Francisco La Monana.

Signs proclaiming "Cuban-Jamaican Solidarity Against the U.S." were hung over speaker's stand, and young men in the crowd were seen wearing OXCP (Russian for R) sweatshirts. (photographs of this rally are available)

President Carter has said nothing whatsoever about any of these developments in Jamaica. His State Department has said it has been given the report on the ballot . . . It would seem that high-level diplomatic discussions would be the only way to ensure that Cuba does not go ahead with this plan to subvert the Oct.30th election-- a military solution, suggested by some in Washington, would be disastrous. . . . It should not, of course, have gone this far -- 3 weeks before the elections-- the Manley government should not, in my opinion, have received the support the government gave him for the past four years. This administration should be held responsible for the extreme position Jamaica now faces, and the extreme position of throughout the Caribbean ---for to be faced, at this point, with suggested actions by the military -- means that we have ignored the steadily worsening situation in that area for far too long (despite warnings of ~~all~~ these developments